SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 1890,

Lendon Offices of THE SUK, # Il communications about the addressed to FRANK F. WHITE, 450 Strand, London W. C.

The Charges of Pawnbrokers.

Some system of pawnbroking is, of course a social necessity. It enables the poor to raise small sums of money on the only security they can offer, articles of personal property, which in practice are usually linen, clothing, and jewels. It is obvious, too that the pawnbroker must charge more than the customary rate of interest on his loans in order to make the business pay, for the petty transactions are numerous, the law requires the keeping of full records of them, and the storage and care of the goods involve much cost and labor.

Therefore the law allows the pawnbroker to charge 30 per cent, a year on loans of not over \$100 and 18 per cent, on greater sums. He is required, besides, to pay \$500 a year for a license, and to give security for the proper conduct of his business in the amount of \$10,000. But those rates, as the prevailing interest is now, seem excessive, for in the goods piedged he takes care to get ample security for his loans. It is true that the vast majority of the sums obtained by the borrowers are very small, and the interest of 3 per cent a month for the first six months and 2 per cat for each succeeding month does not an int to much on each transaction. Yet, whater r it may be, they ought to get it if a lesser rat will induce the investment of capital in the business.

The more serious evil is the loss of money on the goods piedged, for usually they are left in the hands of the pawnbroker to be sold to repay the loans. The law requires that the sale shall be by public auction after the property has been kept a year and after it has been advertised for at least six days in at least two daily newspapers. The pawnbroker is also prohibited from buying in the goods himself, so that there may be a fair competition; but it is reported that in practice there is much collusion in this matter, so that in fact oftentimes the pawnbroker, represented by a confederate, is the purchaser of the goods at much less than their real lue.

This is n. .. ie the easier because of the prevailing ig. orance of the law on the part of the borrowers. When once they have let their property remain in the pawnbroker's shop for a year they regard it as practically sold for the mere amount of the loans received, and give it no further thought. But the law is, and it should be generally understood, that any surplus in the amount obtained for the property over and above the loan and expenses must be paid to the borrower. Therefore it is to the interest of a pawnbroker illegally buying in the goods that there shall be no apparent surplus; but the original owner has only to apply to the Mayor's Marshal to get redress in accordance with evidence presented or obtainable. The pawnbrokers are under close municipal supervision, and proved dishonesty in them and all illegal practices are summarily punished. The public are protected in that respect by law so far as possible, though exactly what their rights are, and especially their title to the surplus from the sale of goods pawned, ought to be posted in every pawnbroker's shop for the information of all.

The question as to whether the rates of interest charged are more than enough for the a lequate remuneration of capital is also deserving of consideration; but probably they cannot be much reduced without injury to the vast majority of the applicants for loans, who have little security to offer and who impose on pawnbrokers the main expense of conducting their business. Several years ago the managers of the Mont de Piété. at Paris, the great pawnbroking establishment under Government supervision, reported that at one per cent. a month loans of under one dollar do not pay the expenses of record and handling. The average loan there is less than five dollars. In New York it cannot be more, and the necessities of such borrowers require that the pawnbroker should get enough interest to induce him 30 per cent. a year is excessive.

The Trend of Politics in England.

That the Gladstonian candidate should have been returned to Parliament by a small majority from one of the St. Paneras divisions of the British metropolis scarcely seems at the first glance an incident of much sign cance. As a matter of fact, however, the contest was marked with a display of energy on both sides seldom withe sed at a bye-election, and it as acknowledged by the Unionists, to had gained the seat in 1886, that its los would foreshadow an adverse verdict on the; rt of all the close metropolitan constit neies. Aside from the typical nature of the locality, the struggle was particularly interesting because it turned upon the question whether the report of the PARNELL Commission should, upon the main subject of debate during the canvass, though it is probable that at the last moment Mr. ABOUCHERE's suspension weakence the Unionist nominee.

That the alight preponderance possessed wi - ramine narrowly the details of the ret a from every electoral circumfind that no fewer than 99 seats were won by Conservatives or Dissident Liberals with majorities less than 500. It would need, in other words, a change of only 250 votes from one side to the other in each 1 those districts to transfer nearly a nundred seats in Parliament from the present Government to the Opposition. The outcome of the St. Paneras contest shows that such a change is taking place so far, at al. events, as the metropolis is concerned. It is worth noting that among the metropo tan divisions carried by the Union--ts four years ago, the following gave them less tha . 500 majority, viz., Clapham, North Cambe: ... il, Chelsea, Central Finsbury, Fuiham, N ... h Lambeth, Kennington, and Bermondsey. Some of these districts, indeed,

Pancras the other day. The indications of this bye-election are confirmed by the tenor of the debate in Parliament on the report of the PARNELL Commission. The spokesmen of the Government have allowed themselves to be put on the defensive, a position they certainly would not have taken had they really believed themselves supported by public epinion, or even by the unwavering approval of the Unionist rank and file. So far are they from possessing even the latter assurance, that a Dissident Liberal member of Farliament has proclaimed through the

the Gladstonians have a far better chance of

gaining than they had of succeeding at St.

newspapers his abhorrence of the Not to ruin Mr. PARNELL by forged letters, and has denounced the Government's reluctance to punish his defamers. Noimpartial onlooker, at all events, can doubt that the day will come when it will seem incredible that, in the face of the Commission's report declaring the letters imputed to Mr. PARNELL forgeries, the Government majority refused to call before the bar of the House for censure the convicted purchasers and utterers of the forged documents.

When the same majority, which has virtually said that the Times may libel an rishman with impunity, so far as the House of Commons is concerned, proceeded to suspend Mr. LABOUCHERE for avowing his inability to believe that Lord Salisbury told the truth in denying responsibility for the escape of persons implicated in the Cleveland street scandal, the British Radicals were naturally wrought to the pitch of infuriation. No one can read the Prime Minister's labored and shuffling explanation without receiving a strong impression that, but for his interview with Somenser's superior officer, the accused person would not have been able to avoid the service of an order of arrest. There is grave doubt, moreover, concerning the right of the Speaker of the House, or of the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, to suspend a member for questioning the veracity of a member of the House of Lords. There are scores of peers whose mendacity is as notorious as their debauchery, whose vices are certain to be denounced openly by the Commons when the time comes for purging or demolishing the House of Lords. nders, too, how in times past it was possible for the Commons to impeach a peer, if they were debarred from the preliminary discussion of his obliquities and crimes. Unquestionably, if Lord Salisbury is, on the face of things, guilty of conniving at the escape of an aristocratic blackguard, while the obscure accomplices of the latter's villainy were promptly brought to justle , the Prime Minister ought to be impeached. The least thing that the House of Commons should do would be to order, as in the PARNELL calle, a commission of inquiry. The wrongdoing of a Minister, however, is protected by no statute of limitations, a lt may fare ill with Lord Salisbury I. he Gladstonians and Parnellites obtain an overwhelming ma-

The truth is that the Tories and their Dissident Liberal auxiliaries have allowed their political passions to earry them too far. They have established precedents of arbitrary discrimination and vindictive conduct that will some day be turned with terrible effect against themselves. They are doing their best to convert the good-natured British Radical into a r-vengeful Jacobin, forgetting that the ultivate effect of the Seats act and Franchise . t of 1885 must be to make the Radicals their masters.

jority at the next general election.

The Whole or None.

The Washington Pre ytery, by a vote of 29 to 14, has declared uself in favor of revising the Westminster Confession, and it has end made by the Rev. Mr. BITTINGER. These propositions are to knock away the whole underpinning of Calvinistic theology, and utterly to destroy its logical consistency by striking out certain acticles concerning election and the domnation of the heathen, and by proclaiming the salvation of "all infants dying in infancy."

Other and minor propositions are the exunging of the description of the Pope as that antichrist, that man of sin, and son of perdition," and the omission of wilful desertion as a sufficient cause for divorce. But elsewhere than in the article where the Pope is so described he is denounced inferentially in equally strong terms. In the article touching Marriage and Divorce, proessors of the "true reformed religion" are told not to marry with "infidels, Papists, or other idolaters." In the article on the Church, also. Rome is included by implication among the "synagogues of Satan." The making of wilful desertion a just and scriptural cause for divorce is fortified by the quoted declaration in Corinthians that "if the unor sister is not under bondage in such cases." From the time of the Reformation Prot-

estant Church councils. As to the destrine of election, it runs through the Westminster Confession and at last was fairly under way, and the condicolors the whole. It is not confined to the few sections of the third chapter, on "Gon's Eternal Decrees," which Mr. BITTINGER would expunge or transform, and where it is more specifically defined. Everywhere it is | deaths until the fatal year of 1896, when fifimplied, and frequently it is referred to teen of the colony found watery graves in a directly. In the chapter on "Goo," He is day. But Mr. Green writes delefully that described as having "most sovereign dominion" over all His creatures, "to do by them, for them, and upon them whatsoever | igrating to Cape Town and other places. Himself pleaseth." In the chapter on "Providence" He is said to "uphold, direct, dispose, and govern all creatures, actions, and things, from the greatest even to the least, by His most wise and hely providence, according to Lis infallible foreknowledge, and the fre and immutable whole, be deemed a conviction or an acquittal | council of His own will; and "all things," | that the father of the biggest family is by of the Irish Nationalist leaders. This was the it is declared further, "come to pass immutably and infallibly." chapter on "Gon's Covenant with its valleys with a teeming population and Man" the covenant is spoken of as with "the elect in faith." In the chapter so its numbers are gradually dwindling. on "Chuist the Mediator" He is described the Un' list coallition in this division of as having purchased "everlasting inherit- possessor of Tristan d'Acunha, though it Pane: in 1886 should now have passed | ance in the kingdom of heaven for all those is G cstonians means a great deal to whom the Father hath given unto Him." In the chapter on "Effectual Calling" we are send out some Sunday school books and last f seral election. We have before | told that "all those whom God hath prodestinated unto life, and those only, He is scription is the United Kingdom, and we pleased, in His appointed and accepted time, effectually to call, by His word and spirit, out of that state of sin and death in which | thought it a favorable chance to send a packthey are by nature, to grace and salvation by Jesus Christ." It is further proclaimed that | bands and homes far away from their native

> eial grace alone." In the chapter on "Justification" we read that "Gop did, from all eternity, decree to justify all the elect, and CHRIST did in the fulness of time die for their sins." We are also told that these the grace of faith, whereby the elect are souls." The chapter on "Good Works" asserts that" works done by unregenerate men, although for the matter of them they of good use both to themselves and others, yet because they proceed not from a heart purified by faith, nor are done in a right manner according to the Word, nor to the upon the immutability of the decree of election." The Last Judgment, the Confession explains, was appointed "for the justice in the damnation of the reprobate."

These quotations are enough to show that

sion rests on the doctrine of election as laid down in the specific sections of the third chapter which Dr. BITTINGER would omit. Without that doctrine, and that doctrine as there defined, the Confession falls to pleces. It has no meaning. It loses its premises.

If, too, the Confession is to stand at all, the doctrine that election extends to infants and that non-elect infants are damned must remain without change. To satisfy the modern sentiment of humanity which expresses itself in societies for the prevention of cruelty to children, Mr. BITTINGER would insert a positive declaration that "all infants dying in infancy are regenerated and saved by CHRIST through the Spirit;" but such a dogma would make ponsense of the rest of the creed. It would cut away the roots of the theory on which it is based. Infants no less than men must be included in the scheme under which nobody is saved and nobody is damned for his own acts, or because of his merits or demerits, but merely because of the eternal decree of Gop according to His own free will. So, also, the effort to save the heathen from the operation of the law must be unavailing uness the whole Confession Is discarded.

That ancient standard of faith is invineibly logical. With the personality of Gop. and the doctrine of future retribution as premises, its conclusions are irresistible. The whole must go or none.

A Little Island Colony.

Some very unpretentious and ordinary people here and there arouse the world's interest, add enduring chapters to history, and find fame without courting it. Every body knows, for instance, the wonderful story of the humble and worthy denizens of Piteairn's little rock, and the history of the handful of people on the volcanic mass of Tristan d'Acunha in the South Atlantic is hardly interior in romantic interest.

For a number of years we have heard very Ittle of Tristan d'Acunha. The day has gone by when we get such interesting information as the fact that a Confederate privateer, having captured a Northern vessel, has landed forty prisoners on Tristan d'Acunha without an ounce of food, increasing the population one-fourth, and taxing the hospitality of the big-hearted islanders to the utmost. We do not hear now and then, as we once did, that whalers have swooped down upon the humble village of the colonists and by force provisioned themselves, without so much as a thank you for the sheep and pigs they stole and the provisions they wrested from the gardens and storehouses. Many a time the settlers have taken noble revenge for this brutal treatment, for numerous vessels have been cast upon their shore, and their crews have been succored by the dwellers on the island.

A letter printed in England the other day from Mr. Peter Green gave the interesting news that Tristan d'Acunha now contains one human being for every year of his life, and he is eighty years old. Four years ago the population numbered 112 souls, but that year a terrible calamity befell the little colony. A storm overtook fifteen of the strongest men while they were out fishing, and yet to consider specific propositions to that | they were drowned within sight of their helpless friends on shore. It was a year of terrible gloom, for the disaster carried mourning into every household.

PETER GREEN has lived on the island for fifty-two years, and only twenty-seven years earlier the island with its snow-capped volcanic cone saw its first human resident. In 1811 an American satior named Jonathan LAMBERT, who had decided to emulate Rob-INSON CRUSOE, settled on Tristan d'Acunha with two comrades and began to till the soll To their great dismay a little garrison of British troops loomed into view a few years later. England just then feared that an expedition might attempt to rescue Napoleon from his island prison, and one precautionary measure was to place a small force on Tristan d'Acunha. When at last the great adventurer died, and Europe no longer trembled at his name, the little troop sailed for home, leaving three or four men who wished to share LAMBERT's fortune:

Then the half dozen possessors of the island bethought them that wives were essential to all well-regulated communities, believing depart let him depart. A brother and so they engaged the kind offices of a whaler Captain, who undertook the delicate mission of persuading a few ladies of St. estants generally held that malicious deser- Helena to cast their lot with the pioneers of tion dissolved the marriage bond, and the Tristan d'Acunha. The bachelors fared betdoctrine was frequently affirmed in Prot- ter than Miles Standish in having their courting done by proxy, and in due season each rejoiced in a mate. The island colony

tions were favorable to its happiness. It is a remarkable fact that until within a few years not a child had died in infancy on the island. The births always exceeded the the young folks are showing a most reprehensible desire to see the world, and are em-Now and then somebody who is tired of the bustle and competition of civilized life turns to the island for relief, and if he is a worthy person he is gladly welcomed. But the colony is not holding its own. Families are large, children multiply, and, in fact, in such honor is the head of a large household held common consent chosen as Governor of the In the colony. But Tristan d'Acunha caonot fill

Of course England claims to be the proud was an American who founded the colony. Now and then Queen VICTORIA is pleased to other tempting presents to remind the colonists that they dwell on British soil. A while ago the Duke of EDINBURGH visited the island in the Galatea. Mr. GREEN age to his daughters who had found husthis effectual call is of GoD's free and spe- rock. So with his package under his arm the old man clambered up the ship's side. What is Mr. GREEN going to do with his bundle?" inquired the Queen's son, as the patriarch appeared on the deck. looking for some gentleman," replied Mr. elect "can never fall from the state of jus- | Green, "who will take charge of it for my tification." Saving Faith is described as daughters." "I will be that gentleman," was the gracious response of his Royal enabled to believe, to the saving of their | Highness, and he saw the freight safely to its destination.

It is gratifying to know that Mr. GREEN was not deprived of his holiday pudding last may be things which God commands, and | Christmas. When he wrote he said that the colony was about out of flour, and unless a steamer arrived in a few days they would have plenty of roast pig and mutton, but no plum pudding for Christmas. But in the last right and the glory of Gop, they are there- lines of his letter he announced that a steamfore sinful and cannot please Gop." The erwas in the offing, and that it was mak-Perseverance of the Saints is described as ing straight for the island. The flour bardepending "not upon their own free will, but | reis were undoubtedly replenished, and there was a merry Christmas in the little village on this remote and solitary speck of the world. But it looks as though Tristan d'Acunha, manifestation of the glory of His mercy in like St. Helens, had seen its best days. The the eternal salvation of the elect, and of His | Suez Canal was a grievous blow to the prosperity of these little islands. Very few steamers or troop ships are now seen in the the entire theological system of the Confes- waters of Tristan. The whales, too, have said

farewell to the island, and whalers are seek- RELIGIOUS QUESTIONS OF THE TIME ing their prey in other seas. The prosperous trade the inhabitants used to drive in supplying water and provisions has almost ceased. The world has nearly deserted and forgotten the islanders. Perhaps some day the old folks will decide it is best to follow the example many of their sons and daughters have set them, and all go together to some larger land, leaving Tristan to its pristine solitude.

The New East River Bridge.

The project of Dr. THOMAS BAINEY and his associates for building another bridge across the East River, as embodied in the bill of Mr. Johnson, has been passed to a third reading in the Assembly at Albany. The objections to the original plan of this structure suggested by owners of real estate on the east side of New York have been removed by carrying the bridge high in the air, with a view to avoid detriment to adjoining property. Of the great value of this new highway, to both Long Island and New York, there has never been any question, and the consent of the general Government to its construction is already secured. The Fiftieth Congress readily passed the bill necessary for that purpose This new Long Island bridge, as it was

designed by the architect of the Ningara cantilever bridge, will be between three and a half and four miles long and 153 feet high. This height will allow an entirely adequate space beneath its floor for the passage of all shipping. It will carry two railroad tracks and will be strong enough to support 90-ton locomotive engines, drawing trains across it at a speed of forty miles an hour. Indeed, its rallway uses form its most prominent and promising feature. On the castern side the tracks of the bridge will have a direct connection with the entire system of Long Island railroads. Having crossed Blackwell's Island a little south of the centre, the bridge will reach Long Island City near Noble street. The bridge track will thence cross Ravenswood Park and strike the Flushing and North Side Railroad, then continuing eastward. The bridge approach on that side will extend nearly two miles from the river and have two stations. From one of these, about a mile from the river, a line will run southerly through Greenpoint and Williamsburgh to Brooklyn.

On the New York side the bridge will take the line of Sixty-fourth street and reach a station between Second and Third avenues, where one track curving northward will meet the Fourth avenue tunnel near Seventyninth or Eightleth street, while another, turning southward, will take the passenger to the Grand Central Railroad Station at Forty-second street.

Besides opening a new highway of communication between New York and Long Island, the new bridge will greatly ben efit the region north of Booklyn by furnishing it with rapid transit and a steam connection with the elevated railroads on both shores. This region will be able to reach the Grand Central Station in about twenty minutes, and the result would probably be the building up of a large disrict of the flat country north and east of Newtown Creek. At all events, the history and statistics of the Brooklyn Bridge show that another thoroughfare will have to be thrown across the East River within a few years, and this one crossing Blackwell's Island, by reason of its close connection with the steam railroads, both surface and elevated, on the two shores, will be particularly convenient and advantageous.

A State Board of Horse Doctors

In every small agricultural community throughout the State there is probably some old farmer who for many years has been in the habit of doctoring the horses and cows of his neighbors, and, on ac count of his skill and experience, always called in by them to treat their sick animals. The privilege thus long enjoyed by local horse dectors and cow doctors is to be taken away by the Legislature: and if a bill which is now pending in the Assembly becomes a law after April 1, 1891, it will be a crime for any person to practise veterinary medicine or surgery unless he holds a diploma or ceriffeate as a graduate from a locally chartered veterinary college or university, or unless he has obtained a license to practise from a State Board of Examiners.

This State Board is to consist of six veterinary surgeons, to be appointed by the Governor for a year. The members must meet for the examination of persons who desire to practise veterinary medicine or surgery at Albany in June, at Syracuse in August, at Rochester in October, and at such other times and places as they deem requisite, and must examine candidates in anatomy, physiology, materia medica, animal obstetrics, pathology, and therapeutics. A fee of \$5 is to be charged for licenses to practise generally, and one of \$20 for licenses to practise any branch of veterinary medicine or surgery as a specialty.

For some unexplained reason New York and Kings counties are excluded from the operation of this bill. If it is good for the rest of the State we can see no reason why it would not be good for this city and Brooklyn

We doubt the necessity or expediency of any such law. The country horse doctor who is honest probably does much more good than harm, and there is no real need of any ignorant violence: but have there been State supervision. We have too many laws on too many subjects already. If the Leg-Islature keeps on we shall soon have a statute to regulate every act in life. The next thing will be a bill in the interest of blacksmiths to prevent a man from shoeing his own horse if, like Mr. ROBERT BONNER, he happens to be skilful enough to do it better than anybody he can employ.

The Hon. Course Ewing. Chairman of the Committee on Statistic suppointed by the Convention of the Indiana Tariff Reform League. which held a pow-wow at Indianapolis last week, reported some hopeful statistics and an able financial plan. We take these too meagre details of his plan and the discussion of it from the Indianapolis Journa!

"Every tariff reformer in Indiana is willing to aid in this work. We estimate that there are in Indiana, by the number of votes cast for Circuiana in 1899, in round numbers. 261,000 tariff reformers, and that an assessspeeches on the adoption of this report some thinking the amount should be 3 cents per capita, and others 5 One gentleman who held for 5 cents said. No matter if \$20 000 be raised, there will be no trouble in decimaling the fund, and he probably spoke wher than he knew. The report was finally adopted with the figure left at 2 cents."

At the session where these statistics and this scheme were presented only forty-six tariff reformers were present. Only think of it: 261,000 tariff reformers represented by forty-six earnest, but mortal men. The responsibility is appalling. To lessen it, we advise the tariff reformers to hold bigger conventions. Special rates would doubtless attract a few of the 261 -000 to Indianapolis, but only the offer of good wages could induce even those few to go to the

> Teracly Minted. From the Post Express.

Verily, the Capitol at Albany is the worst rumbug in the history of architecture, barring the

Viewed from the Standpoint of Universal

"The Catholic Church has done me a great, an almost irreparable damage. It has shown me one creed, one religion in its books, but another one in its observances. As a Church. as an exponent of what I verily believe is largely unfounded traditions, I bear it no love. It has miserably decrived me, has injured me. Its Confessional will stultify and lower the manhood and paralyze the soul. Henceforth I shall take the blessed Bible for my guide, and study it with the assured promise ald in understanding its sweet truths."

Thus writes Mr. Holmes in his letter to the Rev. Fathers Magnier and Dyer, superiors of St. Mary's Seminary, reciting in detail the causes that led to his leaving the Church.

Thus to condemn the Catholic Church is hardly fair. It is not at all fair. It cannot ustly be said that it has one religion in its ooks, and another in its observances. The story of human suffering in hospital and warrior's tent, at the bedside in mansions and anywhere in times of epidemic; these facts stuitify the statement. Are not Sisters of the Catholic Church to be found braving all risks of danger, enduring without murmur all hardships, patiently working with a patience that is inexhaustible in the sacred cause of practical religion? In its efforts to meet the human soul in its moment of need, whether it be the soul swept with remorse, or the soul sick with despair, or the soul about to weakly yield to temptation, by its services that appeal to the imagination, by its confessional when used ustly and with wisdom, incalculable good is effected by the Catholic Church.

Granted that, on the other hand, it fails to effect good in some instances. All diseases cannot be treated with the same medicine; and a medicine that favorably affects one constitutution may affect another most unfavorably.

Some souls may doubt that prayers in which the Virgin Mary is so much invoked, can pour balm in the heart that is torn with repentance. Other souls may fail to find hope rekindled by listening to prayer recited amid pomp and artistic accessories to induce devotion. And other souls may not be fortunate enough to confess to a priest who will hear and advise justly and

The priests are only men; very human men they do not pretend to be aught but that. They hear, feel, taste, see, and detect odors like othe They have human passions. Their intelligence varies. One may be inclined to severity, another to lenity. Without the slightest desire to be flippant-we protest that nothing is further from our wish or intentions-we will say that a priest suffering from indigestion or such ills where irritability is a more or less constant symptom, is a different man from what he is when in health

We grant that thus at times the confessional may fail in its purposes, and, like fire, water. gas, and steam, be not a blessing but a curse if wrongly used: for all priests are not saints, and some are sinners certainly. But is a Church to be condemned because in some cases it falls to exercise its most beneficial influences?

Must we not remember that the Catholic Church keeps in check thousands, hundreds of thousands of men who without it would have no check upon sinful impulses? May we forget its power for good as evidenced in the purity and honesty of most of the servant girls of this land? To their honesty as house servants we trust our property at all times. To their purity as women, we trust our own children. No. we must not condemn altogether, or so sweepingly the Catholic Church. As to its being the exponent of what are "unfounded traditions," It can be that, yet be a power for good,

Calvinism has what many would call an "unounded tradition," in its belief in the damna-Unitarianism says of every other Christian

sect: It has an "unfounded tradition" in recelving the doctrine of the trinity. Salibatarians say of all other Christians: They maintain an unfounded tradition" in observing a first-day Sabbath and abolishing the seventh day Sabbath which Christ followed.

observed, and commanded. A bundred other Christian sects have what many would call an unfounded tradition in their belief that all men not baptized, and so torth, will be everlastingly damned.

The whole cause of splits, schisms, and 'isms' is revolt against what the secodors call

unfounded tradition. True, the Catholic Church has many of these unfounded traditions. No doubt it has more than all others. It must have, because it is the oldest. And the dust of ages, like all dust, will accumulate, will settle, will appear, in spite of every broom, and especially if infallibility cries as it does: "We will have no brooms; all the dust is sacred, inviolable!" We must remember that all religion is the result of evolution. Only the great Book of books, which has been given to this ungrateful world by that puzzle of history, that denial of ethnological law, that mystery of the present, relic of the past, and link of the future. the Jew: only that Book of books is revelation. It has sown seed in the human mind and the rest has been evolution. We sow seed in the ground and the rest is evolution, by the action of laws whose methods we know not. Forces develop, which presently break the shell. then beep above the ground, then grow upward more and more, and finally blossom into beautiful flower, or shape into wholesome fruit. And all depend upon environment.

The seed sown by the Bible rests in Catholic. Protestant, and Hebrew minds, and bears fruit accordingly. All depends upon environment, Under favorable surroundings happy results are insured. But only under favorable surroundings. Thus the Catholic Church grew for many centuries in the darkness of the dark ages. What wonder if it took at times a sombre hue, an unlovely form? Granted that we read in the history of the Catholic Church much that is to be condemned. Granted that we read of immoralities in monasteries and nunneries, of wicked Popes, of licentious Popes, of grasping Popes, of proud and arrogant Popes, Granted that we read of remarkable outbursts of righteous monks or pure nuns. no liberal Popes, no noble Popes? The Prote-tant faiths are not remarkably entient of each other, and assuredly Mr. Holmes must know that. Have they no pages in their Church history which they must wish they could tear out and consign to Lethean waters? thus only with the Catholic Church? The Catholis Church may have "miserably deceived and injured" Mr. Holmes, as he says. But, if it has, it is simply that its medicine does not agree with his constitution. It does not follow that the medicine is siways bad and ought to be cast out of the phurmacopyla of medicines for the human conscience, tonics for the human soul, balms for the human heart. But it is not only Catholicism that is to be judged. There is a mightier revolution coming than even that of Wyclif and Luther, Calvin or Wesley. It takes time to generate a storm. Knowledge,

science, the newspaper, the magazine; these are brooms which sweep away dust and cobwebs, despite every veto and in the face of all policy of ignerance. But they act as brooms not for Catholiciam only.

There influences are, indeed, felt in Catholic ountries, where women and not men are the constant and faithful, the frequent, and the dutiful worshippers. It is here also where education is at its highest standard. It is found n the carelessness of the thousands. especially of the young, who care little or nothing for the duties of Church. But is this the case only with Catholics ! Not so.

The graduates of colleges, who have the little learning that "is a dangerous thing," and which know not the fact, hold up hands and uplift volces at the mention of names such as Pauli. Strauss, Schenkel. Renan; and let us add to these names which the Christian at Work cites such others as Wellhausen or Kuenen or Ewald. They accept anything that substitutes numan agencies, factors, and forces" in the Bible story. And a vast crowd laugh and cheer on Ingersoit. Yet more shrug the shoulder and give none or only a conventional homage

to the Church. But these graduates, these crowds, these hot pollot are not Catholic.

If we are, like Mr. Holmes, to reject a faith ecause it fails sometimes to minister to a soul

diseased, then what faith shall be accepted? It is not words, "a religion in books," that we must recognize as proclaiming the value of The Christian Register may, as it does on

one page, quote with approval Dr. Freston's re-view in the Arena of Cardinal Gibbons's late work, and on another page print that which shows Catholicism in an exactly opposite light. Thus it says, on its editorial note page: "With him (Cardinal Gibbons) * * * the lake of fire, the writhings and agonizing physical torments, so familiar to all students of mediaval art and literature, are practically abandoned. There is no plea in favor of monarchical or aristocratic ideas. And the book itself is but the outward evidence of an inward leaven, which is working in the minds of all deeply religious people, and

social, and political future of the United States and the world at large." And it says on page 183, in its New York letter: "There are many who think if you strip off the new liberal cloak of the Roman Catholic Church you will find the old Jesuit foot hidden under its folds. In this regard one may cite the recent decree of the Bishop of Newark, N. J., ordering Catholic parents peremptorily to take their children out of the public schools and place them in parochial schools, a decree the Newark people have very wisely thus far

which promises the best results for the moral.

disregarded.' Is it so difficult to quote side by side seemingly inconsistent statements from Protestant camps? Let us look at facts.

The silent revolution going on is the shaking free from all that curbs justice, hinders progress, bridles intellect. Whatever there is in Catholicism, and whatever there is in Protestantism, that really closes the lips of justice. or clogs the wheels of progress, or cuts the wings of intellect, must and will be got rid of. If the silent revolution be checked there in time will come the storm which shall clear the atmosphere.

But, if it come there in the ruine will be found the Protestant liberty cap just as possibly as the papal tiara.

There are faults in the make of both, blemishes in both, stains on both, no doubt. But when in the future we hold them up and look at them in the distance of time, faults.

blemishes, stains will not be so much observed. Indeed, they will more likely be lost to sight, And the verdict of future generations will be that that symbol of faith shall be honored which has done much for humanity. And even Mr. Holmes must grant that Catholicism has done something. That it will do more we may be certain, for we will have more like Cardinal Gibbons and Cardinal Ireland. And if there prove to be any fox under the Catholic cloak, public opinion will soon enough strangle it; and Catholics will be found to supply the twine, tie the knot, and pull it tight,

RABBINICUS.

TO TUNNEL DETROIT RIVER.

A Company to Apply to Congress for Au-thority to Construct the Work, WASHINGTON, March 8 .- The House Committee on Commerce yesterday gave a hearing to persons interested in the scheme to construct a tunnel under the Detroit River at Detroit. For twenty years efforts have been made by the various railroads crossing from Canada into the United States at this point to bridge or tunnel the river, but they have been unsuccessful. The vessel interests have aiways combined to oppose any plan for bridging the stream on the ground that the bridge would be a serious and insurmountable obstruction to navigation. At the last session of Congress the Senate Committee on Commerce equested the appointment of an Army Board to examine into the feasibility and practicability of a bridge at Detroit. The Board sat in that city for several weeks last summer, and at the opening of Congress so mitted a report in which the various plans laid before them were referred to, and the conclusion stated that the only feasible bridge would be a high structure that would allow the passage under it of all kinds of vessels. A bill for the construction of a bridge of this kind was introduced in the Senate, but unfavorably reported. because the committee wished to leave the question of a bridge open until the success or failure of the tunnel now being constructed under the St. Clair River, between the city of Port Huron in Michigan and Sarnia in Canada. is developed. There was considerable opposi-

on the American and Canadian sides of the sumo the shackles of matrimony. river. The Army Board, while partially ena tunnel would be the most feasible plan to meet the necessifies of the case, but were doubtful as to its inacticability. Fair progress has been made with the St. clair liter tunnel, and the reports are that the work is progressing satisfactorily and successfully.

In view of this, the Detroit liver Tunnel Company are now preparing to come before Congress with a request for authority to construct a tunnel at Detroit. At the sension of the Commerce Committee yesterday, the atterney for the tunnel company exhibited plans for a sub-squeeus tunnel which he said, would be constructed in one year. The plan is the very simple one of boring beneath the river within ten leet of the water by hydraulic pressure. The plan is a new one, having been invented by Luther Beacher, a wealthy citizen of Detroit, who has taken out patents for his invention in the United States and Canada and in almost every country in Europe. The committee were very much interested in the sub-pect, and will in a day or two adopt a resolution remesting the Secretary of War to send to Congress the testinony that the engineer officers have already taken as to the practicability, feasibility, and approximate expense of constructing the tunnel. The submission of this report will be followed by a request for a charter allowing the company to go ahead with the work.

tion to the high bridge scheme, owing

to the fact that it would be necessary to

have approaches a mile or more in length, both

A MOST IMPORTANT INSTITUTION. An Appeal in the Public Interest,

New York Eve and Eve Inviewant, THIRTERIN STREAM AND SECOND ARKS IN, March 5 | DEAR SER: Permit us to bring to your attention that the corner stone of a new building for the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary, corner of second avenue nd Thirteenth street, will be laid on the 15th inst., at

As the infirmary is the oldest institution of its kind in the country, the occasion, it appears to us, is one deserving of special notice at the hands of our local press. This event will bring together a notable company less on account of its municipal, submiller, and historic interest, as the distinguished character of the gentlemen who walltake part in the cerejumber. The Hon. hadness M. Depaw was preside, the fair it her. Henry Patter, Bishop of New York, will make the opening prayer, while the Hon occupe William Curus will de-liver the principal address.

The New York Eye and har Infirmary was founded in 1830. It was organized with a staff of two physicians, and the first year gave relief to the patients. To-day the staff is represented by 40 surgeons of the highest rank. while the number of patients is now annually close upon

The institution has gradually accumulated an audow. ment fund of \$250,000 a sum fairly sufficient for its maintenance, but none of this sim can be diverted to building purposes without seriously cripining its resources and circumstribing its field of work. Yet a new building is an imperative in exempt, on grounds of sanitation as well as those of lack of roun for practical operation, not to mention laboratory work ample facilities for which should be provided in connection with every institute of with every institution of this character

The nerds being as stated the trustess and surgeons sometime ago set about to raise a building fund. To date about \$70.00 is subscribed in large part the personal gift of the trustees and surgeons themse. About \$50,000 more is needed to complete the prise as now projected. This amount it is hoped a gen erous public will in due course provide. Very respect RICHARD H. DERA J. Hansen Rumanan.

Committee of the Board of Directors.

Mr. Tauther's Condition Improved. WASHINGTON, March 8.—An improvement bus to in Mr. Tanibee's condition, and this morning.

after a refreshing steep, he is perfectly conscious. His brother, Dr. Tauther, thinks that he would be oble to make a steep and a case to the District Attorney, but as the excitement attendant thereto might operate as a set back, it is not pro able that such a statement will be asked for to day. Not withstanding the improvement Mr. Tauthee's condition is still critical.

It fetches one up very short to be seized with pleutiey, produponta, of any action to the seized with pleutiey, produponta of any action to the seized of the seized seized to the seized seize

WHAT IS GOING ON IN SOCIETE. The most conspicuous social event of the

week has been Miss Mabel Wright's marriage to Mr. Fernando Yznaga. Although the wedding took place quietly, in a boarding house parlor, with only the fewest possible intimate friends as witnesses, it was as much talked about and written about in the newspapers as if royal personages had been concerned. Cartainly, no wedded pair ever started off with as much prestige, and it will be their own fault if they do not maintain it. Mrs. Whitelaw Reid, the wife of our Minister

In France, has also been the recipient of much attention during the week on the occasion of ber return to the city for a brief visit to her parents, On Tuesday Mrs. Heber B. Bistisp gave her an afternoon tea, which was numer-ously attended, not only by women, who always predominate at such function men of mature years, whose gray heads doned the assemblage of dark feminine costonies as snow peaks do the Alps, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Bryce gave a dinner in Mrs. Reid's honor the ollowing day, and it would be hard to tell how many other teas, dinners, and luncheous she has been asked to grace,

Mr. and Mrs. Kendal likewise have continued their brilliant social career. On Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Edward Cooper gave them a dinner and invited a number of their friends to meet them later in the evening. In spite of the violent storm. Mrs. Cooper's handsome ballroom was nearly filled with people who had braved the wind and the snow, and who vied with one another in attentions to the guests of the evening. On Wednesday Mrs. Westervell entertained Mrs. Kendal at breakfast at the early hour of half-past 11, those present being, among others, Mrs, Edward Hell, Mrs, Chandler, Mrs. De Peyster, Mrs. Hitchcock, Mrs. Edward King, Miss Furniss, Mrs. Lentilhon, and Mrs. Newcomb. After the breakfast more friends of Mrs. Westervelt came in to pay their respects to Mrs. Kendal, and she expressed much pleasure at the compliment. ception, equally gratifying, was held for her by Mrs. Nicholas Fish on Friday.

Those who saw "Alice in Wonderland" for

the second time at Mrs. Gibert's on Tuesday

evening last were more than ever struck with the cleverness which suggested the idea of adapting the eccentric little tale to stage uses, and also with the unusual dramatic talent that was brought to bear upon its representation, Mrs. Cooper Hewitt was perfectly inimitable as the Mad Hatter, making many clever points with every sharp and irrelevant remark that she addressed to Alice, stirring up the dormouse from time to time after the most ludicrous fashion, and showing berself to be far and away the best actress we have ever had on the amateur stage. Mr. Young's get up as the Duchess, with the pig under his arm, was admirable. Miss Eleanor Hewitt's pas seul in the lobster quadrille was marked by a grace and originality that called forth storms of applause Mr. H. Madison Jones as the Tortoiss wound up the play with a capital song, and the curtain closed amid shouts of laughter and a longing on the part of the spectators to see it all over again. In "Petticoat Perfidy" Mrs. Cooper Hewitt again covered herself with glory, and looked so superbly handsome both in her lady's maid's trim black frock, with linen bands at throat and wrist, and also when wrapped in the showy robes of the simulated princess, that the audience were almost at a loss whether most to applaud her beauty or her talent. Her Frenchwoman's English accent was delicious, and with Miss Ger trude Gibert and Mrs. Hilborne Roosevelt in the parts of society rivals, both of whom are excellent actresses and perfectly at home on the mimic stage, the play went off extremely well, Indeed, the affair was so far above the average of amateur performances that the audience were more than repaid for the tediousness of the long delays, which were said to have been due to the expectation, which, however, was not gratified, of Mr. and Mrs. Kendal's arrival. Another pleasant entertainment was that

given on Friday evening by Mrs. Lawrence Turnure. Music was the nominal attraction which drew together about 250 people. Miss Elliott and Mrs. Pemberton Hincks sans charmingly, and after suppor the Hungarian band played for dancing. The ranks of the corps de bailet are so depleted, however, that no cotillon was formed, and the party broke up at the early hour of 2 o'clock.

The engagement of Mrs. Grace Turnbull to Judge Gray of the Court of Appeals at Albany, although currently reported for a long time has been officially announced only within the last few days. Mrs. Turnbull is young, rich, handsome, and absolutely her own mistress. It is, therefore, somewhat of a surprise to her friends that she should for the third time as-

Mrs. Whitney's "crush" tea, as it will probadorsing the high bridge scheme, intimated that | bly prove to be. Tuesday afternoon, will throw a tunnel would be the most feasible plan to open her house with all its improvements and additions, for the first time. On Easter Monday Mrs. Whitney proposes to give a ball, which, with the last of the Saturday evening dances at Sherry's and very many weddings, will make Easter week unusually gay.

The early yachting, as well as the bunting season, has received somewhat of a check by the unexpected frosts of the last few days, but Mr. F. D. Morgan's big schooner Constellation has already gone into commission, and the Electra is lying at Bay Ridge, fitted with new sails and pretty awnings, the latter speaking plainly of an anticipated tropical cruise. The dandy yachts this summer are, it is said, to appear in silken attire on all racing occasions and fete days, and the superior lightness of the material for holiday sailing is said to be a strong point in its favor. Mr. Frederic Gallatin has a steam yacht on the stocks at Wilmington, which is to bear Mrs. Gallatin's name of Almy, and we hear from the other side that Mr. James Gordon Bennett is building a large steam launch at Dartmouth for cruising on the Soine. It is to be fitted with plate glass on all sides, and its appointments and decorations are to be most luxurious.

Americans promise to be as numerous in London as ever this summer, to the disgust of impecuatous and economical English peorle who desire to make much show with very little cash, and who declare that Americans spoil all the markets for them, and moreover monopolike all the best men at balls and dinners. Spencer House, which Mrs. Marshall O. Itoberts has rented for the London season, is larger and more imposing than Herbert House in Belgrave square, which Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt has taken. It was spacious and gorgeous enough to be placed at the disposal of the German Emperor during the Queen's Jublice, and Mrs. Roberts can entertain right revails there, if she be so disposed. Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt will be in London for a part of the season, as will also Mrs. Bradley Martin and Miss. Beckwith, Sir Roderick, and Miss Cameron, Mr. and Mrs. W. Borden, and many others now in St. Augustine and Bermuda.

The same "uncivilized Americans," as of transatlantic coneins still love to call as notable triumph in the city of the boven Hills this week, when Buffalo Bill accepted to challenge of the Duke di Sermoneta to sub-inand mount one of his famous herd of wild horses, which reared on the Pontine man have hitherto defled every human efcontrol them. Two of the savage beasts were turned into the evens, which had been poteeted by the strongest barriers, nothing less than blood-hed and death being anticipated To the amazement of Roman dignitaries, as well as of the Roman populace, and to the edmiration of Princesses, Duchesses, and Count-esses, the invincible steeds were lassed. - 3died, and mounted in a very few minutes and cheers and bouts from 20,000 pairs of linus very many of which harled from the Wo-Continent. Among the court ladies, a carriages were drawn up near the c were the Princess Brancacci of Mine, ile Westernberg, and other Americans.

Poreign papers, by the way, pronounce the carnival at Nice and Monte Carlo somewhat of a failure this year. Torrents of rain tell on the day of the battle of the flowers, the abse the Prince of Wales took a good deal of g the scene, and one lady at Monte Carlo had net nose broken and the eye of another was read satinguished by an ill-directed branch.